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## Today's News - June 24, 2005

Eminent domain: a boon for municipalities and private developers and/or a boondoggle for private owners. — German building industry in a tizzy; projects long completed not paid for yet. — Libeskind, the eternal op-ed optimist, pens a reminder that he hopes "will help allay New Yorkers' famous impatience." — NIST releases its WTC Draft Reports (43 of them totaling about 10,000 pages). — Time to re-think the roll of starchitects. — Will Perrault's Mariinsky Theatre be a "cultural leap forward" or an "encroachment" on St. Petersburg's built environment? — Foster gets the go-ahead to revamp Avery Fisher Hall (maybe). — Solar power to make things cooler (and costlier?). — Sudjic's "The Edifice Complex" is "a thrilling and passionately indignant trawl through vanity's most polluted depths." — BusinessWeek/IDSA Industrial Design Excellence Awards make the cover.

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Eminent domain expanded: Court rules cities can seize homes for economic development- Chicago Tribune

For Homeowners, Frustration and Anger at Court Ruling: The rights of owners have become populist causes in many places as local governments have grown bolder in efforts to fatten their tax bases.- New York Times

A Public Threat to German Builders: faltering economy has plunged the country's building industry into crisis...public investors are not keeping up with their payments...thousands of companies...are waiting for payment of work that has long been done.- Deutsche Welle (Germany)

Op-Ed: From the Ashes: ...the memories of what we went through in Berlin give me confidence that we will succeed in New York as well. By Daniel Libeskind- New York Times

NIST World Trade Center Investigation Draft Reports and Recommendations- National Institute of Standards and Technology

Time to rethink 'star-chitecture': Washington has squashed two museum additions by internationally celebrated architects...Far from being visionary, the selections of Gehry and Foster...evidenced a conformist, me-too mentality. By Deborah K. Dietsch- Washington Times

Mariinsky reloaded: Is the chosen design solution a cultural leap forward, a future-oriented scheme that will overturn decades of architectural isolation? Or is it just another encroachment on the existing built environment? — Dominique Perrault [image]- St. Petersburg Times (Russia)

New York Philharmonic Approves Plan for Revamped Avery Fisher Hall...with a design by architect Norman Foster.- Playbill

Cool, but the cost is through the roof: The Germans want us to chill our homes with pricey solar power...As a display project in Germany. Conergy has rented the roofs of four Michelin tyre factories, which power 2400 homes.

Book Review: Are architects venal, vacuous and ego-driven? "The Edifice Complex" by Deyan Sudjic...a thrilling and passionately indignant trawl through vanity's most polluted depths.- The Times (UK)

BusinessWeek/IDSA Industrial Design Excellence Awards (IDEA) winners [images, links]-Business Week

June '05 Build Business: Presentations Wanted: Alive, Not Dead. By Carol
Doscher

Antoine Predock: Community Performing Arts & Learning Center, Pima Community College. Green Valley, Arizona

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